



MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE

Bread Loaf
Writers'
Conference

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE BULLETIN

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and Director of the Language Schools

JOHN CIARDI, Director of the Writers' Conference

PAUL M. CUBETA, Assistant Director of the Writers' Conference

MRS. BARBARA FILAN, Secretary of the Language Schools

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE

Writers' Conference *at* Bread Loaf

August 17–August 31, 1960

THIRTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION

FOREWORD

Bread Loaf comes to its thirty-fifth session with a happy sense of having started something, for it was at Bread Loaf that the idea of the Writers' Conference was born, and it was from Bread Loaf that the idea spread until there are now over sixty conferences across the country.

But if Bread Loaf is proud of having started an idea that has become an essential part of the American literary scene, it is prouder yet of having kept the idea going and growing. Year by year, under the shaping influence of such men as Robert Frost, Bernard DeVoto, Fletcher Pratt, Theodore Morrison, and William Sloane, Bread Loaf has evolved a view of writing and a method of presentation that make each annual session a smoothly coordinated experience. By now thousands of writers, would-be writers, teachers, and devotees have learned how full an experience Bread Loaf can be.

Over sixty lectures and workshops are packed into the two weeks of the Conference and so arranged that no two conflict. Any Conference member with the devotion of a saint and the physical stamina of an athlete can attend all of the lectures (warning: bring your own cushion), but the less saintly and the less hardy will be well advised

to cut now and then for a dip in the swimming hole, or a game of tennis, or a walk through some of the loveliest countryside in Vermont.

Certainly, no one will run short of literary talk at Bread Loaf. And certainly no one will leave without the excitement of new ideas, new insights, and new friendships that will already seem to be old ones by the time the cars start down the mountain again.

To all returning Bread Loafers a happy welcome to our thirty-fifth birthday party. To all new Bread Loafers the same welcome with a touch of envy at having it all to discover.

John Ciardi

Director



Sunning on the lawn between the tennis courts and the Davison Library.

THE STAFF

FICTION



Bernard Asbell, free-lance writer, teaches nonfiction writing at the University of Chicago. He has published several dozen articles in such magazines as the *Saturday Evening Post*, *Harper's*, *Horizon*, *American Heritage*, *The Reporter*, *Playboy* and *Coronet*. Mr. Asbell is a former editor of *Chicago*. He first came to *Bread Loaf* as a Contributor in 1954, and returned as the Fletcher Pratt Fellow in 1958.

NON FICTION

Allen Drury, novelist and reporter, is the author of the best-selling novel *Advise and Consent*. He has been a Washington correspondent for seventeen years, having served on the United Press Senate staff, the national staff of the *Washington Evening Star*, and the Capitol Hill staff of the *New York Times*. He is the Washington Correspondent of the *Reader's Digest*.



Richard Gehman, free-lance writer and editor, has published approximately six hundred magazine articles in the last twenty years and is a contributing editor at *Cosmopolitan*. He has written seven books, which include *How To Write and Sell Magazine Articles*, *Murder in Paradise*, *Slander of Witches*, *Jury Is Still Out*, and edited an eighth, *Eddie Condon's Treasury of Jazz*. He taught at New York University between 1947 and 1950.

Nancy Hale, short story writer and novelist, winner of the O. Henry short story prize, is a frequent contributor to the *New Yorker*. Her book *A New England Girlhood* is a group of *New Yorker* pieces about her childhood. She has written several hundred short stories and nine novels, which include *The Prodigal Women*, *The Empress's Ring*, *The Sign of Jonah*, and *Heaven and Hardpan Farm*. *Dear Beast*, her latest novel, was published last fall.



Louis W. Koenig, is Professor of Government at New York University and the author of *The Invisible Presidency*, published earlier this year. He is co-author with Edward S. Corwin of *The Presidency Today* and editor of *The Truman Administration*. Mr. Koenig has previously taught at Bard College and has been employed as a consultant by the State Department and the Hoover Commission.

David McCord, poet, Guggenheim Fellow in 1954, Lowell Institute Lecturer in 1950, has published more than twenty books including five of poetry and three of light verse. *Far and Few* (1952) is a collection of his poems for children. A graduate of Harvard, he has the only honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters that his University has ever given.





John Frederick Nims, poet, is Professor of English at the University of Notre Dame, on leave last year as Visiting Professor of American Studies at the University of Madrid. A former editor of *Poetry*, he has written for such magazines as *Accent*, *Sewanee Review*, *Botteghe Oscure* and *Poetry*. His collected volumes of poems are *The Iron Pastoral* and *A Fountain in Kentucky*. He has translated Euripedes' *Andromache* and the *Poems of St. John of the Cross*.

William Raney, editor, was the former editor-in-chief at Henry Holt and Company and at E. P. Dutton and Company. He has been the editor of the Trade Department at McGraw-Hill Book Company and is now editor at Rinehart and Company.



William Sloane, editor and novelist, is the author of *To Walk the Night* and *The Edge of Running Water* and editor of *Space, Space, Space* and *Stories for Tomorrow*. Formerly a vice president at Henry Holt and Company, editor at Funk and Wagnalls Company, and President of William Sloane Associates, he is Director of the Rutgers University Press. The senior member of the Conference Staff, he has been at Bread Loaf since 1944.

JUVENILE LITERATURE

Eunice Blake is Vice President and Editor of Children's Books at J. B. Lippincott Company. Previously an editor at Thomas Nelson and Sons, the Macmillan Company and Oxford University Press, Miss Blake was instrumental in founding The Children's Book Council, which serves as the trade association of juvenile book publishers in this country. A frequent lecturer on juvenile literature, she has led discussion groups at the Association for Childhood Education International, the University of Connecticut, and the University of Chicago.



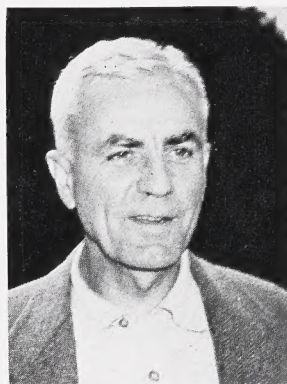
SPECIAL LECTURERS

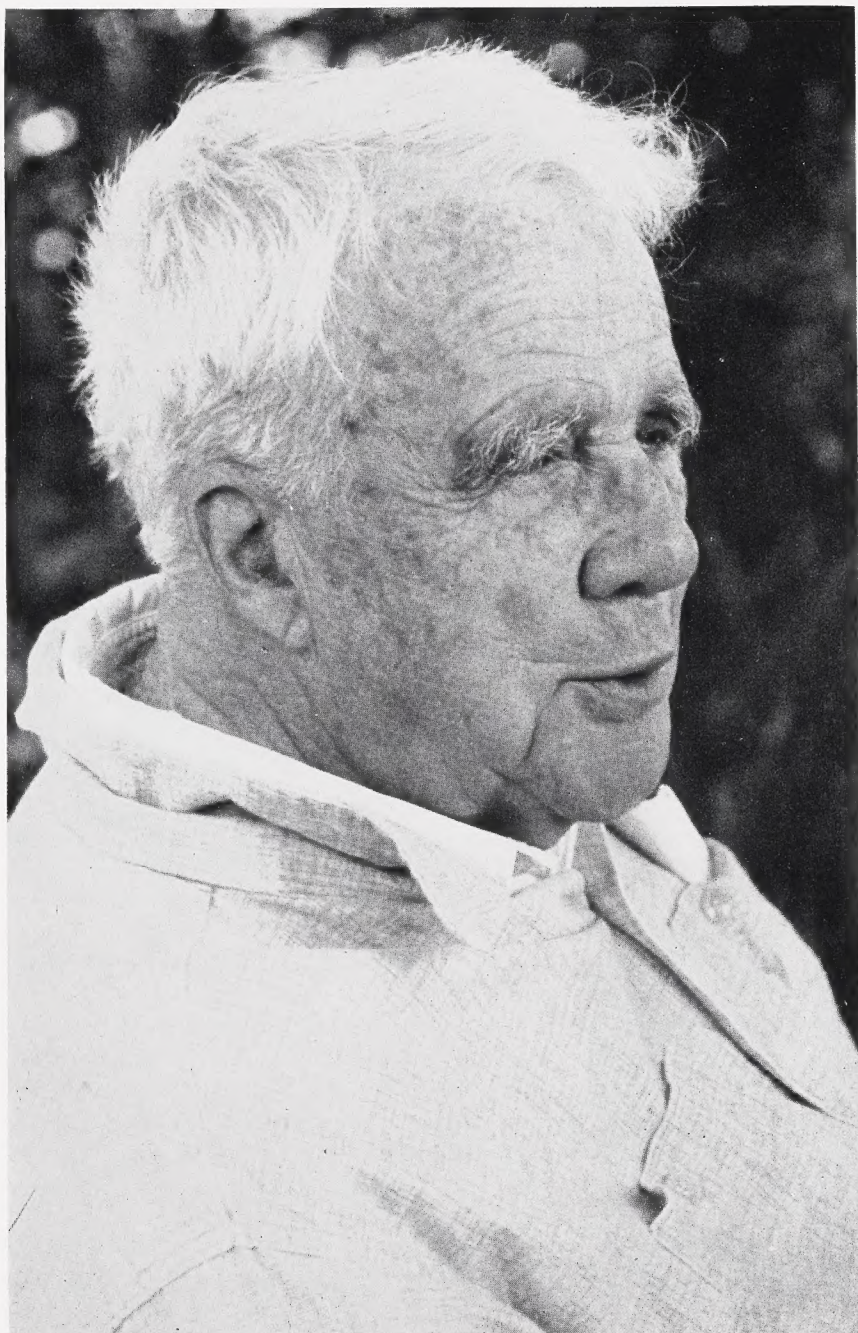
Robert Frost, America's foremost poet.



Stewart Holbrook, author and journalist, has written twenty books on American history and historical figures. Some of his recent ones are *Age of the Moguls*, *Dreamers of the American Dream*, *Golden Age of Quackery*, and *Mr. Otis*. He has written several volumes of the Landmark series: *Davy Crockett*, *Swamp Fox of the Revolution*, *Wild Bill Hickok Tames the West*, and *Wyatt Earp*.

Theodore Morrison, novelist, poet, and teacher, is a Lecturer on English at Harvard University and for twenty-five years was Director of the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference. His volumes of poems include *The Devious Way* and *The Dream of Alcestis*. He is the editor and translator of the *Portable Chaucer* and the author of *The Stones of the House* and *To Make a World*.





Mr. Frost of Ripton . . .



William Hazlett Upson, short story writer and lecturer, has written over one hundred Alexander Botts stories for the *Saturday Evening Post*. Besides articles for such magazines as *Colliers*, the *Ford Times*, and the *Georgia Review*, he has written *Earthworms through the Ages*; *Hello, Mr. Henderson*; and *No Rest for Botts*.

ADMINISTRATION

John Ciardi, Director of the Conference, poet, critic, and anthologist, is Professor of English at Rutgers University, Poetry Editor of the *Saturday Review*, and a member of the National Institute of Arts and Letters. He has translated Dante's *Inferno* and is the editor of *Mid-Century American Poets* and a critical text, *How Does a Poem Mean?* His volumes of poetry include *Other Skies*, *Live Another Day*, *From Time to Time*, *As If, I Marry You*, and *39 Poems*. His first volume of children's verse, *The Reason for the Pelican*, was published in 1959.



Paul M. Cubeta, Assistant Director of the Conference, is an Assistant Professor of English at Middlebury College. He has taught at Williams College and was a former Carnegie Fellow in General Education at Harvard University. He is the editor of *Modern Drama for Analysis*.



The Tea Cabin.

THE HISTORY OF BREAD LOAF

Bread Loaf Inn was opened as a hotel in the 1860's by Joseph Battell, who bred Morgan horses, kept the Morgan stallion register, and believed in the preservation of forests. He acquired over thirty thousand acres of forest lands and left this property, with the Inn, to Middlebury College in 1915. Most of the forest is now national park; the Inn is no longer a public hotel, but the living quarters of two of the Middlebury College Summer Schools, the Bread Loaf School of English in the early summer and the Writers' Conference during the last two weeks of August. Modern improvements and the addition of several new buildings have enhanced the charm and conveniences of the old original Inn and the surrounding cottages.

The Conference, the first of its kind in the country, began in 1926 under the direction of John Farrar, then editor of the *Bookman*, who was succeeded in 1929 by Robert M. Gay. Theodore Morrison became Director in 1932, and under his leadership the Conference gained much of the prestige which it commands today. In 1955 John Ciardi took over as





Director. A major force in creating and sustaining Bread Loaf has been Robert Frost, who has been with the Conference from the beginning and continues to extend its dimension of height and depth today.

LIFE AT BREAD LOAF

Schedule of Lectures There are three morning sessions and two afternoon sessions every weekday during the Conference. During the first week, these sessions consist of lectures by the various staff members. A typical day's schedule might read: 9:00 A.M., The Novel; 10:15 A.M., The Short Story; 11:30 A.M., Non-Fiction; 2:00 P.M., Poetry; 3:15 P.M., Juvenile Writing. The same sort of schedule applies during the second week, but the sessions then become workshops rather than lectures and are primarily devoted to criticism, in which the whole group participates, of manuscripts submitted by Contributors.

There are, additionally, evening lectures every night of the Conference, Sundays included. In these evening lectures, Staff Members and Guest Lecturers speak on whatever is closest to their hearts as human beings who write.

No two lectures are scheduled for the same time. It has been said that it is theoretically possible for a resolute Conference member with the stamina of a water buffalo to sit through sixty-nine lectures plus a final banquet plus a number of pleasant impromptus. No one at Bread Loaf recommends such a marathon. A member is probably wiser to take in all the lectures and workshops in his own category and to sample the others while allowing himself an occasional break for coffee at The Barn.

Accommodations No rooms will be ready for occupancy until Wednesday morning, August 17.

The number of applications for Bread Loaf will outstrip the housing facilities. When the last room has been assigned, no further applications can be considered. Those who seriously intend to come to Bread Loaf, and above all, those who want special room assignments, would be well advised to apply as soon as possible. Anyone making application should be prepared to accept a double room as the single rooms are all chosen quite early. It is assumed that members will live on campus. The Secretary will make every effort to assure a satisfactory assignment.

A doctor and a resident nurse will be in attendance, and the well-equipped Porter Hospital at Middlebury is within easy reach.

Meals Meals are served at stated hours in the dining room of the Inn,

which is operated and staffed by Middlebury College under the supervision of an expert and trained dietitian. No individual provision can be made in the dining hall for persons who require special diets.

Snack Bar Late breakfasts and afternoon and evening snacks may be obtained for a small charge. The snack bar offers short-order cooking as well as ice cream, sandwiches, hot and cold drinks.

Waiters A few positions are open for those desiring to earn most of their expenses by waiting on table. The compensation for Contributors is board, room, and partial tuition; for Auditors, board, room, and tuition. Application blanks may be obtained by writing to the Secretary of the Language Schools.

Recreation For those who are keen about outdoor life, the Conference is ideally located at the edge of Battell Forest. A junction with the Long Trail—"a footpath in the wilderness"—which winds along the summit of the Green Mountains and extends from southern Vermont to the Canadian border, is a short hike from Bread Loaf.

Softball playing fields, tennis courts, and croquet courts are available. There is also a golf course in Middlebury. Saddle horses are usually procurable at reasonable rates. Bathing beaches at Lake Dunmore, one of the most attractive of Vermont lakes, are twelve miles from the Conference. There is also swimming in the mountain streams at or immediately about Bread Loaf and in the Johnson Swimming Pool on campus.

CLASSES OF MEMBERSHIP

Contributors Those who wish to bring manuscripts to Bread Loaf for criticism by the staff should apply for admission as Contributors. Contributors are asked to submit, at the time of application, examples of the kind of writing of which they will later expect criticism at Bread Loaf. In general it is expected that Contributors will submit manuscripts in only *one* field. Work in progress or completed manuscripts may be presented for criticism. The Conference is unable to accept manuscripts of plays or television scripts. The Director reserves the right to limit the amount of material submitted by any Contributor.

Auditors Those who do not wish to submit manuscripts should apply for admission as Auditors. Auditors may attend all lectures and participate in all open discussions. They may not submit manuscripts for staff criticism; otherwise their privileges are in no way different from those of Contributors.



Picnic on the Bread Loaf Lawn.



The Johnson Pool at Bread Loaf.

ADMISSION

Both Contributors and Auditors are subject to selection. The basis of admission for Contributors will be the examples of their work they submit with their applications. First choice will be given to those who, in the judgment of a preliminary reader, show professional promise. But inexperienced or beginning writers will be admitted if the preliminary reader considers that they are likely to profit by the criticism of the staff. The basis of admission for Auditors will be any evidence the applicant offers of serious literary interest, such as published work or active concern with writing or teaching.



THE STAFF, 1959

REAR: (left to right) Richard Gehman, William Sloane, Hollis Summers, George Barker, Walter Magnes Teller, Ralph Ellison, William Rancy, William Meredith, Paul Cubeta. FRONT: Avis DeVoto, Nancy Hale, Robert Frost, John Ciardi, Eunice Blake. FOREGROUND: Judith Ciardi.



Mr. Barker discusses poetry with (left to right) Clemens Starck, Carol Weston, Michael Singer and William Coakley.

Application Procedure 1. Write for an application blank to the Secretary, Language Schools Office, Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vermont.

2. Return the filled-out application to Paul M. Cubeta, Bread Loaf Writers' Conference, Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vermont.

3. If you desire admission as a Contributor, forward to Mr. Cubeta examples of your published or unpublished work *at the same time that you return your application blank*. As much material may be submitted as you feel is necessary to represent fairly the range and quality of your work.

All manuscripts must be clearly typewritten and will be returned only if accompanied by a self-addressed envelope and full postage or clear directions for return by express collect. A full and clear address should be written on all manuscripts as well as on all letters. Some time may pass before manuscripts can be returned, and it will therefore be an advantage to keep copies. The Conference assumes no responsibility for

manuscripts lost in the mails or otherwise, but all possible care will be taken to prevent such loss.

4. If you desire admission as an Auditor, return your application, without manuscript, to Mr. Cubeta.

Applications are accepted only from people who intend to be present for the whole session. No reduction of rates is offered for part-time attendance.

The restrictions of space at Bread Loaf, both in classrooms and living-quarters, make it impossible to accommodate friends or relatives of members, unless they too are regularly enrolled members.

Contributors should bring manuscripts in their hand luggage so that they may be submitted to the Director on registration day. No manuscripts can be accepted after the second day of the Conference.

Fees The administration reserves the right to make any changes without notice in courses, staff, living arrangements, etc. The all-inclusive fees for tuition, board, and room are as follows:

| | Contributors | Auditors |
|---------|--------------|-------------|
| Tuition | \$122 | \$ 92 |
| Board | \$ 53 | \$ 53 |
| Room | \$ 20-\$ 55 | \$ 20-\$ 55 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| | \$195-\$230 | \$165-\$200 |

The tuition fee includes a fee for an accident insurance policy with limited coverage. A nonrefundable registration fee of \$25 will be called for by the Secretary of the Language Schools at the time the applicant is notified that he has been accepted for membership. Rooms will be assigned only to those whose applications have been accepted and who have paid the registration fee. This fee will be credited against the applicant's total charges. *Please make all checks payable to Middlebury College.*

SCHOLARSHIPS

A limited number of scholarships to the Writers' Conference have been made available through the generosity of anonymous friends. In general these scholarships are intended for partial aid, the applicants assuming as much as they reasonably can of the normal Conference fees. In cases of special need, however, full scholarships may be provided.

Scholarship application forms may be secured from the Secretary of



THE FELLOWS, 1959

Elizabeth Baker, Irene Orgel, Mr. Frost, Anne Sexton, George Lea.

the Language Schools. All applicants for scholarship aid should submit manuscripts and apply for admission as Contributors to Mr. Cubeta. The closing date for scholarship applications is June 1. Each candidate will be considered separately on the basis of the submitted manuscript and of his financial need. Undergraduates are eligible.

All of us at Bread Loaf are moved to offer our most grateful thanks to those good friends who have added this resource to the Conference. We have no doubt but that this Scholarship Fund will serve over the years to aim many a good talent on the road it must go.

FELLOWSHIPS

The Conference offers a limited number of fellowships, paying all regular charges at Bread Loaf, but not traveling expenses. A committee of the Conference staff awards the fellowships, guided by the following policies:

1. Personal applications are not accepted, and undergraduates are not eligible.

2. To be considered for a fellowship, each candidate must be *nominated* by a magazine editor, publisher, literary agent, well-known writer, or college teacher. Nomination may be made informally in a letter to Mr. Cubeta.

3. Candidates for fellowships are assumed, except in extraordinary cases, to have published a book or to have had a book manuscript accepted for publication.

4. All nominations should be in the Assistant Director's hands by April 15. Supporting manuscripts or published work should reach him by May 1.

THE ROBERT FROST FELLOWSHIP IN POETRY

This annual Fellowship in Poetry is sponsored by Henry Holt and Company, original publishers of Mr. Frost's poetry. The Fellowship is offered for five consecutive years beginning in 1956 and will cover full tuition, room, and board for the period of the Writers' Conference. The Fellowship is awarded annually to a poet of genuine promise to be selected jointly by the Bread Loaf staff and Henry Holt and Company.

THE BERNARD DE VOTO FELLOWSHIP IN PROSE

Sponsored by Houghton Mifflin Company in memory of the late Bernard De Voto, long a member of the Conference staff, the fellowship will be offered in 1960 to a writer of promise in the field of nonfiction.

THE FUNK AND WAGNALLS FELLOWSHIP IN PROSE

This fellowship, awarded annually by Funk and Wagnalls Company, provides full tuition, board, and room for an outstanding writer in fiction or nonfiction.

THE FLETCHER PRATT MEMORIAL FELLOWSHIP IN PROSE

Awarded by W. W. Norton and Company, Curtis Brown, Ltd., and friends of the late Fletcher Pratt, in memory of his long service and shaping influence at Bread Loaf, this fellowship will pay all Conference expenses to a writer of merit in fiction or nonfiction.

THE WEEKLY READER CHILDREN'S BOOK CLUB FELLOWSHIP IN JUVENILE LITERATURE

The Bread Loaf Writers' Conference is pleased to announce the continuation for a fourth year of a fellowship in juvenile literature, made possible through the generosity of the *Weekly Reader* Children's Book Club. The fellowship will provide full tuition, board, and room to an outstanding writer in the field of juvenile literature.

Transportation Middlebury is halfway between Burlington and Rutland, Vermont. Bread Loaf is eleven miles from Middlebury up among the Green Mountains. Members not arriving by automobile will go via the New York Central to Albany, New York; or via the Boston and Maine to Bellows Falls, Vermont; or via the Vermont Central to Essex Junction (Burlington); and make bus connections on the Vermont Transit Lines to Middlebury. There is no railroad passenger service direct to Middlebury. Baggage should be sent by railway express. Bus schedules will be supplied upon request. There are planes to Rutland and Burlington from Boston via Northeast Airlines and from New York via Eastern Airlines.

